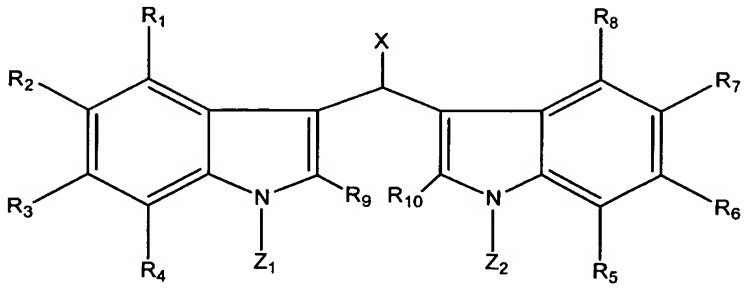
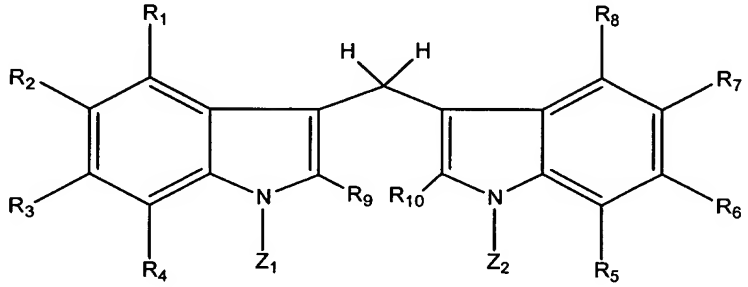
What is claimed is:

1. A method for making a Soritin compound or having the following structural formula (A):



(A)

or a Soritin composition comprising the Soritin compound which comprises reacting a compound of the structural formula (1):



(1)

with a metallic base having the formula $M^{\oplus}B^{\ominus}$ and then adding L—X, wherein L is a leaving group and X is, or is convertible to, –H, –OH, halogen, –COOH, –COOR, C_1-C_8 alkyl, cycloalkyl, C_1-C_8 alkoxyl, mesyl, tosyl, mesyloxy, tosyloxy, arylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyloxy, –OCOR, or NZ_1Z_2 (wherein Z_1 and Z_2 can be the same or different) to give the Soritin compound or the Soritin composition,

wherein $R_{1\text{-}10}$ are independently the same or different and selected from –H, –OH, halogen, –COOH, –COOR, C_1-C_8 alkyl, cycloalkyl, C_1-C_8 alkoxyl, mesyl, tosyl, mesyloxy, tosyloxy, arylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyloxy, –OCOR, or NZ_1Z_2 (wherein Z_1 and Z_2 can be the same or different);

Z_1 and Z_2 are independently the same or different and selected from –H, –OH, C_1-C_8 alkyl, cycloalkyl, C_1-C_8 alkoxyl, or –COR;

R is C_1-C_8 alkyl, cycloalkyl, or aryl;

X is –H, –OH, halogen, –COOH, –COOR, C_1-C_8 alkyl, cycloalkyl, C_1-C_8 alkoxyl, mesyl, tosyl, mesyloxy, tosyloxy, arylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyloxy, –OCOR, or NZ_1Z_2 (wherein Z_1 and Z_2 can be the same or different);

M is a suitable metal ion; and

B is a suitable base.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein Z_1 and Z_2 are H or CH_3.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein X is –H, $–CH_3$, –COOH, or $–COOCH_3$.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the Soritin compound is Soritin B.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the Soritin compound is Soritin C.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein M is Na, K, or Li.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein M is Na, K, Li, or Cs, and B is H, $N(i\text{-}Pr)_2$, $(Si(CH_3)_3)_2$, n-BuLi, t-BuLi, sec-BuLi, $N(cyclohexyl)_2$, N(i-Pr)(cyclohexyl), tetramethylpiperidide.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the metallic base is lithium diisopropylamide, sodium hydroxide, lithium hexamethyldisilazide, potassium hexamethyldisilazide, lithium tetramethylpiperidide, or potassium tetramethylpiperidide.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the leaving group is a halide, an anhydride, a mixed anhydride, or a Lewis acid complexed to S, N, or O.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the leaving group is F, Cl, Br, I, pyridinium, substituted pyridinium, imidazolium, substituted imidazolium, OSO_2R_{11}, OR_{11}, SR_{11}, $OCOR_{11}$, $(R_{11})_3PO$, OPO_3R_{11}, or $OC(=NR_{11})(NHR_{11})$, wherein R_{11} are independently the same or different and selected from –H, –OH, halogen, –COOH, –COOR, C_1-C_8 alkyl, cycloalkyl, C_1-C_8 alkoxyl, mesyl, tosyl, mesyloxy, tosyloxy, arylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyloxy, –OCOR, or NZ_1Z_2.

11. The method of claim 9, wherein the Lewis acid is coordinated to oxygen.

12. The method of claim 9, wherein the Lewis acid includes boron, aluminum, zinc, copper, and tin.

13. The method of claim 1, wherein the Soritin composition is further concentrated.

14. The method of claim 1, wherein the Soritin composition is purified.

15. The method of claim 1, wherein the Soritin composition comprises about 90% w/w or more of the Soritin compound.

16. A Soritin compound or a Soritin composition made by the method of claim 1.

17. A pharmaceutical or cosmetic formulation comprising the Soritin compound or the Soritin composition of claim 1 and a suitable pharmaceutical or cosmetic carrier.

18. The pharmaceutical or cosmetic formulation of claim 13, further comprising at least one supplementary active compound selected from the group consisting of antibiotics, analgesics, and anti-inflammatory agents.